

(as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period of October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,976,370, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, organizations thereof (as authorized by section 292(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(c) For the period of October 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,267,330, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee may report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2011.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required—

(1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate;

(3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate;

(4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate;

(5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate;

(6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(7) for payment of franked mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 2009, through September 30, 2009, October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010, and October 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations".

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 7—HONORING AND REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE "LARRY" KING

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 7

Whereas Larry King was a 15-year-old boy from Oxnard, California who was shot by a fellow student during English class on February 12, 2008 and died in the hospital 2 days later;

Whereas the police classified the murder as a hate crime;

Whereas in 2008, more than 150 vigils were held across the Nation in Larry's memory, and more than 18,000 students from more than 6,500 middle and high schools came together to commemorate his death;

Whereas one year later, vigils continue to be organized to call for an end to violence, bullying, and harassment in schools in the United States;

Whereas in 2007, 85 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students were verbally harassed at school because of their sexual orientation, and more than 20 percent of those students were physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation;

Whereas the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network's 2007 National School Climate Survey showed that when students are harassed or assaulted at school, they find it difficult to focus on their school work, their grades drop, and they attend school less often; and

Whereas schools should be a place where all children can learn and grow in a safe environment, free from bullying and harassment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors and remembers the life of Lawrence "Larry" King;

(2) condemns all hate crimes; and

(3) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, and the people of the United States to take immediate steps to stop bullying and harassment in the Nation's schools.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a resolution to honor the memory of Lawrence "Larry" King, a 15-year-old boy who was shot and killed at a California junior high school on this day last year.

Larry's story is a tragic and is a poignant reminder of why it is so important to stop bullying and violence in our schools.

Larry King was a spirited boy who grew up in Oxnard, California.

At the age of 10, he told the other kids at school that he was gay, and many of them teased and taunted him as a result. At his first school, the bullying became so harsh that his parents had to transfer him to a different school. But the transfer seemed like a good one, and although Larry still endured teasing, he made some very close friends.

Near the beginning of last year, Larry decided to change the way he dressed. He started wearing girls' accessories, makeup, and a pair of high heels that he bought for himself at Target.

In February, he asked one of his male classmates to be his Valentine. The boys exchanged heated words, and the next morning Larry came to school dressed plainly and looking nervous and out of sorts.

He had English as his first class and he sat with the other students, including the boy he had asked to be his Val-

entine. The class was in the school's computer lab and the students sat typing up their papers.

At 8:30 a.m., the other boy stood up and fatally shot Larry. He had hidden a handgun in his bag, which he took out, and simply stood up silently and shot Larry twice in the back of the head. Larry died in the hospital two days later.

This act of violence is shocking and devastated his parents, and the Oxnard community.

I strongly oppose hate crimes of all kinds. When victims are targeted because of who they are—because of their race, their religion, their sexual orientation, or national origin—the harm runs very deep.

Hate crimes can cause lengthy emotional trauma; they can make people afraid to express their identities; and they are deeply divisive and can tear our communities apart.

Hate crimes and bullying in schools can cause even deeper harm.

According to a School Climate Survey in 2007, over 85 percent of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students were verbally harassed at school. And more than 20 percent of these students had been physically assaulted.

The survey also found that when children were bullied or harassed, they attended school less and their grades began to drop.

This bullying and violence has to stop. I am introducing this resolution today to commemorate the life of this young boy and to draw attention to the need for increased efforts to end bullying and violence in our schools. Schools should be safe places where children can learn and grow, free from harassment or any threat of physical attack.

I also want to take this opportunity to urge my colleagues to pass hate crimes legislation this year so that our federal law will be clear that crimes based on a person's sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability are crimes of hate and must be vigorously prosecuted because of the great harm that they cause to our communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, off the Senate floor, during a roll call vote on February 13, 2009.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.